4th Dimension Acorn Game Loading Assistance

ALL of our products are now individually loaded and playtested IMMEDIATELY prior to despatch. Despite this rigorous quality control there are certain circumstances beyond the control of any publisher where a program may be difficult to load. Plus PLEASE NOTE - Due to our anti-piracy protection system the 1st disc of many of our products will NOT verify. This is perfectly normal and does NOT mean it is faulty.

If you are unable to load a game please try the following before loading:-

(1) Switch off your computer for at LEAST 10 seconds, then switch on again.
(2) Also ONLY IF you have a hard disc fitted which is set to autoload any applications on power up, then hold down one of the "Shift" keys when you turn on. This stops them loading and thus prevents them grabbing memory and using processing speed.
(3) IF when you attempt to load the game your computer tells you it needs more memory to run it then you will have to reallocate memory temporarily via the Task Manager. (This may happen obviously when a particular game requires a large amount of memory and (usually only) if you have a 1 Megabyte machine). Acorn themselves recommend this procedure for games.
To select the Task Manager click with the middle mouse button on the 'A' or 'Acorn' symbol in the bottom right of desktop and select it. You should reduce the values of the Font Cache, System sprites, RAM disc & Module area to their smallest possible values.

If the game still fails to load you could try the following:-

Turn off your computer. (Warning: The following inbuilt method automatically reconfigures your machine to the same as when it was brand new). Turn on again whilst holding down the "DELETE" key and keep it held down until desktop appears. If you have a 1 Megabyte machine you may also have to reduce values of memory allocations via the Task Manager as above.
If any of our discs ever become faulty we will replace them FREE of charge immediately. Simply return them to us with your name and address. PLEASE NOTE: You MUST return ALL discs for a particular game but there's no need to return its game box or manual. Plus PLEASE state which Acorn you have and what happens / messages appear (if any) when you try to load it.

Game Running Assistance

The first disc of most Fourth Dimension games is the key disc and to prevent unauthorised copying cannot be backed up. The last disc (i.e. the 2nd disc of a 2 disc game or the 3rd disc of a 3 disc game) will usually be constantly updated with players' names, scores and so on.
It is therefore necessary to ensure that it is write enabled during use (i.e. do not write protect it). It is not protected against piracy and it is therefore recommended that you make a backup of it and use this backup rather than the original which you should keep in a safe place. Plus when running from floppy this last disc should be left in drive 0 until you stop playing the game.
If you don't do the above it may crash and/or data may not be saved or you may get an error message such as "DATA LOST".

The Fourth Dimension, 1 Percy Street, Sheffield, S3 8AU.